the exploration and identification of monuments for the protection and preservation is a continuous process.

(c) and (d) The protected monuments are conserved and preserved as per the structural needs of the monuments and availability of resources.

(e) To create awareness about the monuments and to popularize them among the tourists, the World Heritage Day and World Heritage Week are observed at the important monuments of the country. The Department of Tourism has a scheme for the Refurbishment and Landscaping of monuments.

Closure of Mines

5512. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mines which have been closed down during the last three years upto June 1996 in the country;

(b) the reasons for their closure;

(c) the loss in production and revenue suffered as a result thereof in each year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to rehabilitate the labourers of these mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) As per provisions of Rule 23 of Mineral Conservation & Development Rules 1988, the owner agent, mining engineer or manager of every mine is required to give a notice to the Government of his intention to abandon a mine or a part thereof. However, as per information available with India Bureau of Mines (IBM) during the last 3 years upto June, 1996, notice of abandonment of 30 mines have been received by the Government. Details of which are given as under : —

	State	No. of Mines
1	Karnataka	5
2.	Madhya Pradesh	3
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Kerala	3
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2
6.	Rajasthan	3
7.	Tamil Nadu	4
8.	Andhra Pradesh	1
9.	Maharashtra	3
10.	Gujarat	3
	Total	30

(b) Reasons for abandonment are exhaustion of minerals, lack of demand, un-economical woking condition, closure on account of Court order and State Government order and mines falling within Coastal Regulation Zone.

(c) There is no significant loss in overall annual production of these mines. However, production loss of these mines is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) Government has no specific scheme for revival of mines which have closed or work temporarily discontinued. However, where the closure is due to lack of demand, it is felt that steps taken to liberalise the economy and increased industrial production would result in increasing demand for minerals and so make operations of such mines economical.

STATEMENT

LOSS OF PRODUCTION

Sl. No.	State	Mineral	Loss of production during the year (in tonnes)		
			1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Bihar	Kyanite	1177	1177	177
		Fireclay	—	—	1255
		Felspar & Quartz	—	19 (Fels.)	19 (Fels.)
			—	431 (Qtz.)	431 (Qtz.)
2.	Kerala	Silica Sand	2008	2008	2008
		China clay	226	226	226
		Limeshell	7712	7712	7712
3.	Karnataka	Magnesite	—	2718	2718
		Limestone	10000	10000	10000
4.	Tamilnadu	Limestone	—	14693	15132
		Quartz &	—	—	1059 (Qtz.)
		Felspar	—	—	104 (Fels.)
5.	Rajasthan	Silica Sand	—	1695	1695
		Limestone	3124	3124	3124
6	Andhra Pradesh	Manganese Ore	—	426	426
7.	Gujarat	Bauxite	—	606	1296
8.	Maharashtra	Industrial Sand	15807	20287	20637
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Laterite	—	—	30
		Dolomite	—	—	1248

[Translation]

Development of Pushkar and Ajmer

5513. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details and reasons for not including the Pushkar and Ajmer in the World Tourist Map;

(b) whether the Union Government have decided to develop Ajmer and Pushkar as the tourist places of international importance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of domestic and international tourists who visited Ajmer and Pushkar during each of the last three years and the earnings made therefrom; and

(e) the details of the future plans of the Government regarding the development of Pushkar and Ajmer from tourism point of view and the amount earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) and (e) Development and promotion of places of tourist is primarily the responsibility of the State/Union Territory Governments concerned. However, the Deptt. of Tourism, Government of India on receipt of specific proposals based on merit, inter se priority and availability of funds, provides Central financial assistance for such developments. In Ajmer and Puskhar the following projects have been sanctioned by the Government of India :-

Year	Project	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1990-91	Tourist Accommodation at Pushkar	7.10
1991-92	Yatrika at Ajmer	26.99
1992-93	Pilgrim sheds at Vishram Sthali, Ajmer	34.66
1993-94	Public conveniences at Vishram Sthali, Ajmer	8.48
	Total	77.23

Apart from this contribution, the Central Department of Tourism through its tourist offices overseas has projected Pushkar and Ajmer in the world tourist market, through promotional and publicity tools which include brochures, films, etc.

(d) As per information received, the details of arrivals of tourists at Ajmer and Pushkar during the last 3 years are as follows :-

Year	Ajmer		Pushkar	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
1993	478977	10326	654827	18863
1994	423912	46024	505357	14710
1995	501476	47651	662699	26719

No separate information on earnings made at each tourist centre is available.

[English]

Vanaspati Production

5514. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of vanaspati manufacturers alongwith their prescribed quota of production, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of vanaspati produced by these manufacturers during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the names of vanaspati manufacturers who have produced vanaspati more than their prescribed quota, State-wise;

(d) whether this kind of excess production is permissible under the Essential Commodities Act;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the action taken by the Government against each of the manufacturer for violation of provisions of the Act;

(g) whether this type of restriction, if any, on excess production, in the said Act creates scarcity of vanaspati in the country; and

(h) if so, the reasons for not removing such restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (h) No quota has been prescribed either on State-wise or manufacturing unit-wise basis under the Vegetable Oil Product Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act. The vanaspati industry has been delicensed with effect from July 25, 1991. The average capacity utilisation of the vegetable oil industry is already less than 40% of the total installed capacity in the country. Hence, the question of excess production does not arise and no consequential action under the Essential Commodities Act against the manufacturers is called for.

[Translation]

National Mineral Development Corporation

5515. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the mines of National Mineral Development Corporation, location-wise;